data has been acquired in Rajnagar and South of Tichna, Rokhia-Bisalgarh-Agartala Dome and Bamutia areas. During the years 1997-98 and 1998-99, ONGC has accreted 2.29 BCM of initially in-place hydrocarbon (gas) reserves in Tripura.

(d) (1) Agartala Dome-20: The well was targeted for drilling upto the depth of 4000 metres (mtrs). This well was successfully drilled upto 4001.5 mtrs. and all the required geological data/ objectives were achieved. However, during production testing, the well was abandoned as it was not economical to carry on further operations due to down hole complications.

(2) Rajnagar-1: The well had a target depth of 4000 mtrs., or 200 mtrs. within transition pressure zone. It was drilled to a depth of 3410 mtrs. i.e. about 400 mtrs. into the transition pressure zone. Five objects were tested. Only minor gas indications were observed. The well was abandoned. The geological objective was achieved.

Economic study on retail and highway outlets

2426. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had conducted the economic study of jubilee retail outlets, Highway outlets before finalising the scheme for installations of such retail outlets and the facilities to be provided on these retail outlets;

(b) if so, who is the authority/agency responsible for conducting the said study and the details of this report; and

(c) if not, whether. Government would conduct the economic study of these retail outlets before investing further on such retail outlets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (c) To commemorate the 50 years of Independence, Government had launched a "Jubilee Retail Outlets Scheme" for the convenience of the motoring public on important National and State Highways. The Scheme provides facilities such as

secured parking lot, restaurant/dhaba, hygenic toilets, first aid service, repair facility and telephone, STD/ISD, FAX, etc. at the Jubilee retail outlets. The Scheme was launched as a utility service for the motoring public as a 'Pilot Project*.

Percentage of loss of MS and HSD

2427. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) how much amount is paid by BPCL to job contractor for providing manpower on its CoCo retail outlet named BP-21 at Chandigarh;

(b) what is the percentage of loss of MS and HSD on this R/o's account of evaporation loss and handling loss, respectively, and its value thereof;

(c) whether the BPCL has conducted enquiry against the excessive loss of product on this R/o and what are the detailed results of said enquiry and the amount spent on this enquiry; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken against responsible persons for this said embezzlement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) BPCL is paying Rs. 2,76,000/- per month to the operator for providing manpower at BP-21 Chandigarh.

(b) to (d) Detailed investigations were carried out by a team of officers of BPCL to ascertain the reasons for the loss. Evaporation/ handling losses of Motor Spirit and HSD in this RO is higher than the laid norms and is on account of operation reasons.

Since the enquiry was conducted by BPC officers only, no extra amount was spent on this enquiry.

No evidence of embezzlement was found.